

American Farmer,

AND SPIRIT OF THE AGRICULTURAL JOURNALS OF THE DAY.

"O FORTUNATUS NUMIUM SUA SI BONA NORINT
"AGRICOLAS."
Virg.

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THE AMERICAN FARMER.

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TERMS.—The "AMERICAN FARMER" is published every Wednesday at \$2.50 per ann., in advance, or \$3 if not paid within 6 months. 5 copies for one year for \$10. ADVERTISEMENTS not exceeding 16 lines inserted three times for \$1, and 25 cents for each additional insertion—larger ones in proportion. Communications and letters to be directed to SAMUEL SANDS, publisher, corner of Baltimore & North sts

We continue this week to enclose in their respective papers, bills against subscribers indebted for the "American Farmer," and we again most urgently appeal to all such to forward the amounts due as early as possible, in the best notes in their power conveniently to obtain.

Those gentlemen who have obtained through the agency of the publisher, Implements, Seeds, Stock, &c., and for which the cash was not forwarded, are requested to remit the cost of the same without further delay.

AGRICULTURAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES.—As the Agricultural Society of Baltimore county and city has been organized under auspices which favor the opinion, that it is destined to be of great usefulness, we deem the occasion an opportune one, to suggest the propriety of its providing by a by-law, that a Committee be appointed for each district of the county, whose duty it shall be to report monthly, or quarterly, for the columns of this paper, an abstract of all interesting facts that may transpire in their respective districts. From the organization of such committees in England, a flood of information has been collected and diffused throughout that kingdom, for many years, of the most valuable character, and by which a new impetus has been given, and energy infused into its agricultural community. We are aware that it is not safe at all times to borrow examples from our transatlantic friends, but of the propriety of engrafting this upon the institution in question, there can be no question, as its beneficial influences are too apparent to be mistaken. Should such committees be organized, and the objects and aim be faithfully carried out, there is no calculating the vastness of the information which might be gained, and benefits conferred on the farming interest. Besides the collection of the facts, to which we allude, the execution of the trusts to be confided to the several committees, would beget a spirit of generous rivalry among agriculturists of each neighborhood, as well as with members of the respective committees themselves, which in our opinion would redound to the advantage of all concerned. Farmers would thus be inspired with the noble impulse of excelling each other in the manner and neatness of preparing their ground, putting in their seed, and after culture of their crops, as well as in the accumulation of manure, the mode of preparing the food for their stock, and plan of wintering them. But it is useless for us to attempt to particularize the numberless subjects which would come under the cognizance of such committees, in a business so multifarious as that of husbandry, or of pointing out the various instances in which a spirit of emulation might be excited, as these committees, if arranged, will view the whole field of usefulness upon which they will be called upon to act, and intelligently carry out the purposes of their creation. We

will, however, make one remark more before we conclude. It is this—we hope that all Agricultural Societies within the range of the wide-spread circulation of our paper, will consider the remarks we now make, as being as appropriately directed to them, as to the one to whom it is especially addressed.

VALUE OF URINE AS MANURE.—To show the fertilizing effects of urine, Sir John Sinclair says:

"Every sort of urine contains the essential elements of vegetables in a state of solution. The urine of a horse being so much lighter, would be more valuable than its dung, if both must be conveyed to any distance. The urine of six cows, or horses, will enrich a quantity of earth sufficient to top dress one English acre of grass-land; and as it would require 14 worth of dung to perform the same operation, the urine of a cow, or horse, is worth about 12 shillings per annum, allowing 8 shillings per acre as the expense of preparing the compost. The advantages of irrigating grass lands with cow urine almost exceeds belief. Mr. Harley, of Glasgow, (who keeps a large dairy in that town, by using cow urine, cuts some small fields of grass six times; and the average of each cutting is 15 inches in length."

This fact furnishes strong proof, from the very best source, of the great value of urine as manure, and it suggests a most striking truth to the mind of the agriculturist, in the fact, of the immense loss sustained by him, in permitting the urine of his stock to go to waste—a truth which, we think, should make him seriously consider upon the propriety of adopting some practicable plan, by which it may be saved, and made to contribute to the fructification of his soil. As most stables and barn yards are constructed, the major part of all liquid manures are now lost to the owners; but a little attention in hauling loam and leaves into the latter and giving the proper form to them, a very large proportion of that made by the cattle would be absorbed, and thus preserved for the purposes of the spring crops.

EFFECTS OF LIME AND CLOVER.—A friend assured us a few days since, that a neighbor of his had last year raised off of a large field, an average of 12 barrels of corn to the acre; that the same field only a few years before had yielded an average of only 3 barrels to the acre, and that the increased fertility had been brought about solely by the use of lime and clover. This is, indeed, a strong proof of the virtues of these two meliorators of the soil, and it should make a deep impression upon every farmer's mind.

Have you used lime yet? If you have not, do it forthwith, though you may have to haul it twenty miles.

PINE SHATTERS, if hauled into the stables and cow-yards this fall and winter, will act in a three-fold capacity—serve as excellent bedding for the stock, as an absorbent of their urine, and make superior manure in the spring.

Instead of feeding corn in the grain to your horses, have it first crushed, cob and grain together, then chopt and fed. By this process you will save fully 25 per cent in feed, besides giving it to your horses in a state calculated to impart nourishment, without making an injurious demand upon the digestive powers of the stomach.

BARRETT'S GARLIC MACHINE.—The editor of the Southern Planter, in speaking of our notice of this machine, remarks:

"If the machine is all that it is described to be, the inventor will obtain a suitable reward for his ingenuity in bringing it to this market [Richmond, Va.] Our millers are proverbially enterprising and liberal."

We most cheerfully concede to the millers of Richmond, all that is claimed for them by the editor of the Planter, on the score of enterprise and liberality—the high standard to which they have brought their flour is indubitable proof of the possession of the first quality, and their location is as pleasing an evidence that they enjoy the latter. And while we make these concessions, we will remark, that Barrett's Garlic Machine from its intrinsic value, is eminently entitled to every thing we said in its favor, and that before we ventured to speak in its praise, after having examined it, being pleased with the principles of its construction, we visited Mr. Weirman's mill, where one had been many months in practical use, under a skilful miller, and there satisfied ourself fully of its utility. Thus confirmed in our good opinion of the machine, and of its worth, we felt it to be our duty to say what we did, and we are confident, that if any of the millers of Richmond were to try it, its use there would become as extensive as the flouring mills themselves, for no miller of correct judgment, after seeing one in operation, would rest until he had added it to the other appointments of his mill. It is, in fact, one of those machines, whose simplicity and economy cannot fail to commend it to any careful observer.

GATES.—The Southern Planter, for October, contains a plan for fixing gate posts, which we think will be found on trial to be an effectual preventive against swagging, and, therefore, shall notice it with a view that those of our readers who may have gates to put up may avail themselves of it. The manner of rendering the posts fixed, or permanent, is this:

"Just above the butt of the posts, on each side, a piece of plank 12 inches wide, and 2 inches thick, is tenoned on the posts with a dove tail; the distance between the shoulders, being of course, regulated by the intended width of the gate."

The plank being sunk beneath the surface greatly adds to the stability, and imparts strength to the fixture, preventing the posts from receding from their upright position. It is almost superfluous to mention, that the earth over the cross-piece is to be well rammed, as the propriety of so doing will suggest itself to every reader, but it may be proper to remark, that in the selection of the plank for this purpose, such only should be used as will resist the effects of decay when buried beneath the earth.

STUBBLE FIELDS AND WEEDS.—Would it not greatly contribute to extirpate weeds from our fields, if, after a grain crop is cut off and weeds spring up, those weeds were either cut or ploughed in before they have time to mature their seed? We think it would not only do that, but would essentially contribute towards the enriching of the soil, as any substance which, by decomposition, generates carbonic gas, must be considered in the nature of stimulatory manure.

COMMERCE OF BRITISH INDIA.

The immense power of Great Britain arising from her extensive domain, embracing over three millions of square miles, including parts of every continent, and a multitude of the islands of the sea. Her vast population of over two hundred millions, almost one third of the population of the Globe, the immensity of her wealth and the multitude of her learned men, all executing her will, and carrying out her policy with almost unerring certainty, make this Queen of Nations, in all her movements a cause of jealousy and almost alarm to all nations. In her public policy, she has always been illiberal and selfish, with foreign nations, unjust, tyrannical and oppressive when her power has enabled her to execute her purposes of injustice and oppression with impunity.

Her recent movements in India, to entirely relieve herself from any dependence on the United States, for her supplies of the Great Staples of the South, sugar, cotton, rice, tobacco, and her recent attempts to obtain possession of the Island of Cuba, are worthy the attention of the citizens of the United States. Her gigantic efforts to develop the agricultural products of India to be brought in direct competition with those of our own country, with probable success, may be learned from the following extracts from the N. Y. Journal of Commerce, as to the manner and extent of her operations:—*Bos. Cal.*

1st. From the consideration of the British power in the conquered provinces, and by their large armed forces preventing the numerous chiefs from warring and depredating upon each other; thus securing to the people, peace—the first element to a nation's prosperity.

2d. The abolition of the trading charter of the East India Company, and the modification of their political powers.

3d. The spreading of Education and Christianity.

4th. The reduction in England of the duties on East India produce, such as sugar, cotton, rice, &c. &c.

5th. The stimulus given to the cultivation of the above articles by the high prices in England and on the continent; the recent investments of large amounts of capital by English merchants and agriculturists; the abolition of the internal transit duties; the removal of the censorship of the press; the introduction of steam power on the Ganges and other rivers, and the opening of the new mail route to Calcutta via Egypt, which saves 40 days sailing round the Cape of Good Hope, and is not only a great saving to the British Post-Office, but one of large profit; and of the greatest convenience to the merchants of England and India.

6th. The exertions of the East India Company to stimulate the cultivation and to improve the quality of India cotton, by importing American gins and seeds; by granting premiums to individuals who may exhibit the best specimens of that article; and the establishment of numerous Agricultural Societies in each of the Presidencies.

Furthermore I would say, that the English are turning their attention to this subject with an energy that cannot fail to convict the Southern planters that they are in earnest, and that through the numerous reforms introduced into the social and political condition of the Hindoos the competition in cotton, rice, sugar, coffee, and tobacco, has actually commenced within the walls of the bonded warehouse, and in the actual sales out of bond in the hands of the merchants. To prove which, I submit the following recent facts—for one fact is worth more than a thousand theories. Not one of the English Price Currents which have examined my article, at all doubt the statements of the sage reviewer whose visionary theories we hope may die with him, as the Editor of the Charleston Mercury remarks.

From "The European"—"Myers' Mercantile Gazette"—and "Prince's London Price Current of August, 1841." Imports of Cotton from the 1st January to 17th August, 1840—41.

	1841.	1840.
From United States, bales,	775,559	1,061,570
From E. India Co.'s Territory,	110,101	95,484
Cotton taken out of bond for home consumption the first seven months of 1841—40.		

	1841.	1840.
From United States,	487,570	568,610
From E. India Co.'s Territory,	74,650	52,691

Exports of Cotton to the Continent from 1st January to 24 August, 1841:

	bales,	20,472
American,	do.	1,760
Brazilian,	do.	23,715
Other kinds,	do.	2,200

This, I believe, is the first instance in which the exports of India cotton have exceeded those of ours. Are these facts not to be pondered on by the planters of the South?

AGRICULTURE.—The "Northern Light" contains a communication by John A. Dix, in which a comparison is drawn between the State of New York and England and France, in respect to their agricultural products. The following are some of the results:

Product of Cereal Grains.

	21 1-7 bushels per inhabitant.
State of New York,	
England and Wales,	16 3-5 "
France,	14 1-4 "

Let us now extend the comparison to live stock.

Horses.

	476,115
State of N. York, (horses and mules),	
Great Britain, (horses),†	1,500,000
France, (horses and mules)†	2,983,326

Cattle.

	2,202,438
State of New York,	
Great Britain,	5,220,000
France,	8,671,918

Sheep.

	5,381,225
State of New York,	
Great Britain,	39,648,000
France,	30,360,682

The proportion stands thus:

Horses.

	1 to 5 1-10 inhab.
State of N. York, (horses and mules),	
Great Britain, (horses),	1 to 11 2-100 "
France,	1 to 11 1-4 "

Cattle.

	1 to 1 1-10 "
State of N. York,	
Great Britain,	1 to 3 17-100 "
France,	1 to 3 9-10 "

Sheep.

	2 1-5 for each inhabitant.
State of New York,	
Great Britain,	2 2-5 "
France,	0-90 "

or one sheep for every 1 1-10 inhabitant.

[From the Mas. Agricultural Society's Papers.]

EXPERIMENT,

Showing the importance of selecting the first ripe seeds, communicated to the Trustees of the Agricultural Society, by JAMES FREEMAN, Sept. 1, 1805.

To ascertain whether the ripening of seeds can be forwarded, by sowing those which are the earliest ripe, I have made experiments, all of which have been successful on several different sorts. It will be sufficient to mention one only.

In the year 1801, I planted the case knife bean. The pods first formed, which are commonly those nearest the roots, were reserved; and when about the quantity of a peck was fully ripe, they were gathered on the same day. The largest and the fairest of the seeds were planted the next year, and the first formed pods reserved as before. The same method has been pursued without any variation, till the present year; by means of which, whilst the bean has not degenerated in its quality, the ripening of the seeds has been forwarded twenty-six days; as will appear from the following

TABLE.

Planted.	Gathered.	No. Days.
1801, May 20,	Sept. 9,	112
1802, May 11,	Aug. 21,	102
1803, May 10,	Aug. 8,	90
1804, May 8,	Aug. 4,	88
1805, May 6,	July 31,	86

The first column denotes the time of planting the seeds; the second, that of gathering the seeds, which were first ripe; and the third, the number of days which elapsed between the time of planting and the time of gathering.

As in the second and following years I anticipated the time of planting the seeds by which means fourteen days have been gained, in addition to the twenty-six noted above) to determine what effect later planting would pro-

duce, by giving the seeds more advantage from the heat of summer, in the years 1804 and 1805, I put into the ground a quantity of seed, about a week later than that which was first planted. The event which took place, is exhibited in the following

TABLE.

Planted.	Gathered.	No. Days.
1804, May 14,	Aug. 8,	86
1805, May 13,	Aug. 6,	85

As very little time has been gained in the present and in the preceding year, I suppose I have now reached, or nearly reached, the *ne plus ultra*. I delay not, therefore, to communicate to the Trustees of the Agricultural Society, the result of an experiment, which confirmed the important truth, taught in various parts of their useful publications, *That, to ensure an early and good crop, the seeds reserved for future sowing should be those which are the first ripe, and which are, in other respects, the most perfect.*

OBJECTIONS TO THE OAT AND TOBACCO ROTATION.

A communication in the May number of your journal, over the initials H. M., in which I recognize an esteemed friend, recommends a system of tobacco after oats under a two-field rotation. Taking this, together with a former essay from the same excellent pen, I perceive that H. M.'s opinions are based upon the practice of that most intelligent and successful agriculturist in Virginia, Wm. Old, Esq. But with this accumulated weight of just claims to high and indisputable pretensions opposed to me, I must nevertheless be permitted to dissent to the system.

H. M. tells you, as I understand him, that in entering on this course, it is important to the judicious application of labor in the tobacco crop you should first make your lots rich, by manure, of course. They are to be then kept up, after tobacco, indeed improved, by oats. If a certain amount of tobacco must be made annually, and you are limited by invincible circumstances to 2 lots, I admit the propriety of the practice; but if this is not the case, and there is room for three, why give an oats lay the preference over a heavy one of clover, which will rarely fail to succeed tobacco if sown in February; and I consider that clover, on account of its early protection to land from sun and evaporation, as well as its fertilizing properties, has no equal as a lay. Oats, maturing rapidly, with an exhausting crop of seed, and drying up at once, cannot be so considered; and if turned under at maturity, as they must be to produce the most fertilizing effect, a naked fallow is exposed to the injurious influence of the sun at the hottest season of summer. Again, the rotation is too short to allow of an effort of nature in the reformation of soil. But the crowning objection with me to the system is, that you give up a large portion of the profits of your labor in preparing for and cultivating this expensive crop, in losing the best preparation known for wheat and clover. Why not, then, friend H—h, stretch your rotation to three lots, even if there are a little rolling, (which I agree is objectionable,) clear an additional one, or buy of a neighbor? or, if these are inadmissible, divide by three instead of two, and bring yourself to the abjured and scouted system of three fields—tobacco, wheat, clover?

A. M. H.

Farm. Register. September 11th, 1841.

PRESERVING SWEET POTATOES.—I never use straw or stalks—only dry earth. So soon as they are dug, I have them put in a dry cellar and cover them with six or eight inches of dry earth; if the cellar be dry and no air gets to them, they will keep till May or June. The vines will also keep green through the winter, if put up before they get frosted; cut round the old seed Potatoes with a knife so as to leave small portions of the vine and all small Potatoes in a bunch with the old seed—if planted the next year they will grow and make Potatoes. I tried some, and all that saw them growing pronounced them equal to any they ever saw.

D. GRAVES.

Davidson Co. Tenn. Sept. 1841. Ten. Agriculturalist.

Mascal, an old agricultural writer, gave the following rough remedy for the rot in sheep:—Keep the sheep for three days in a house without meat or drink, then give to every hundred a bushel of bran mixed with as much salt laid in troughs, and hunger will make them eat it; then drive them to the water and let them drink their fill; then let them be chased with a cur a good space after, and then put them into what ground you will for one quarter, and they shall take no hurt; then you must take them up the next quarter to serve them so again.

IMPROVEMENT OF POOR LANDS.—Another way of mending land, is what they call in England, green dressing; this is by sowing buckwheat, oats or rye, and when grown up and is full of sap, they plow it in; after this, let it lie till fully rotten, then plow again and sow your wheat. I am told the Dutch people, on poor pine plains, in this way, have fine crops of wheat; but for green dressing, I should prefer above all, sowing millet, on account of the cheapness of seeding the land; the cost is but a trifle; the stalk and leaf growing large, it must afford a good large coat to turn in when plowed. Being once in Kent, an old country farmer told me he had been in the practice of green dressing; he had plowed in green oats; it seemed to alter the color of the land; it looked much better than the rest of the lot, which had not been so served. The farmer said, that he could raise land or increase the strength to a great degree in a few years, in the following manner: after his oats were harvested, he added some seed to the scattered oats, plowed it in, at the end of September plowed in the green oats, and sowed it with rye; the next summer, when the rye was well grown and full of sap, plowed that in, at common sowing time; it would be fit to produce a large crop of wheat. All the cost of plowing and seed, is not so much as the cost of dung, carting and spreading, if we can get it; but the difficulty is, it is not to be had upon any terms; there are very few such bad husbandmen to sell their dung.

Mr. Edmund Quiney, of Boston, a gentleman of learning and integrity, to whom I am indebted for many useful hints and observations—informs me, that having a son residing at Portmore, in England, the young gentleman writes, that some farmers in that neighborhood are entered into a new practice, which is to sow their dry land which is not fit for pasture, with rye, and feed their sheep upon it, so that it may not spindle or grow up; that this feed makes excellent mutton, and will continue to grow from year to year, without any tillage or re-sowing; he doth not say how long it will continue; possibly the practice is so new that they do not know themselves. I have observed that where sheep are well kept, and remain upon the land night and day, the land will grow better. As rye will endure the heat of a strong sun much better than grass, 'tis seldom hurt with drought. I suppose this may be of great service in our Southern Colonies, where the heat comes so fast that the grass has not time to cover and shelter the roots from the piercing rays of the sun. The advantage of the grass growing up before there is a strong heat is, that the grass gathers and preserves the dews for the benefit of the roots; when dew falls upon naked and unsheltered land that is not plowed, made soil, and so fitted to drink up and retain the dews, or well clothed with grass, what falls in the night is exhaled in the day, and thus the ground is robbed of that which is the chief riches of the atmosphere.

If I understand it right, this being the state of some of our colonies, the above named method of making artificial pasture with rye, may be of advantage to them, and of use also to us where the soil is dry.

That wheat and rye bear drought much better than grass, is an old observation preserved in one of the English proverbs.

"Wet May makes short corn and long hay.

"Dry May makes long corn and short hay."

As the old English proverbs contain truth and good sense, founded on due observation and experience, I have a fondness for them.—*Elliot's Essays, Published in 1747.*

FOUL MEADOW GRASS.—In a former essay, I mentioned the strange and peculiar property of foul meadow grass, that it will hold out to be in season for cutting, from the beginning of July till some time in October; this I wondered at, but viewing some of it attentively, I think I have found the reason of it: when it is grown about three feet high, it then falls down, but doth not rot like other grass when lodged; in a little time after it is thus fallen down, at every joint it puts forth a new branch; now to maintain this young brood of succors, there must be a plentiful course of sap conveyed up through the main stem, or straw; by this means the grass is kept green and fit for mowing all this long period.

Whether this young growth from the joints, be owing to the horizontal position of the straw, or whether it is a confirmation of that doctrine, that the joints of plants are seed-vessels, I leave to naturalists to determine.

I find by experience, that the best time to mow this grass, is when these new branches or succors have obtained to their full growth.—*Id.*

RECLAIMING BUGS AND SWAMPS.—I would commend and encourage the clearing and draining of swamps and bogs, as there is a depth of rich soil for the nourishment of the rank vegetables, and they cannot fail of being the best of every man's estate who is possessed of them: I think they will prove like the drained bogs in Ireland.

This branch of husbandry is improved and advancing yearly, and in many places makes a fine show. Take a view of a swamp in its original state; full of bogs overgrown with flags, brakes, poisonous woods and vines, with other useless products, the genuine offspring of stagnant waters.

Its miry bottom, a harbor to turtles, toads, efts, snakes, and other creeping vermin. The hateful thickets of brambles, and the dreary shades of larger growth; the dwelling-place of the owl and the bittern; a portion of foxes, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. Now take another survey of the same place, after the labor of clearing, ditching, draining, burning, and other needful culture has passed upon it.

Behold it now, clothed with sweet verdant grass adorned with the lofty wide-spreading well-set Indian corn; the yellow barley; the silver colored flax; the ramping hemp, beautified with fine range of cabbage; the delicious melon, and the best of turnips—all pleasing to the eye, and many agreeable to the taste; a wonderful change this! and all brought about in a short time; a resemblance of creation, as much as we, impotent beings can attain to—the happy product of skill and industry.

Sumptuous buildings and fine gardens, afford a pleasing prospect, and strike the eye agreeably; what are the gaudy shows, the fleeting joys of Ranelagh; the glittering scenes, the chanting music, the splendid banquets of Vauxhall, compared with the more than rural pleasures to be enjoyed in these new sprung fields, considered as a rich source of supply for man and beast? but more especially considered as a compendious lasting fund of charity? it being a more extensive charity to prevent beggary than to relieve it. These views serve to waft away the soul upon the wings of exulting elevated thoughts and warm desires, towards the Great Creator and Beneficent Ruler of the Universe.—*Ibid.*

THE SUN-FLOWER.—We noticed recently in a No. of the Farmer's Cabinet an article on the cultivation and properties of the sun-flower. The writer asserts that the seeds of this plant are not only far more oleaginous than those of any other now known among us, but that the oil extracted from them combines the qualities for eating of the best olive oil; for burning of the best sperm, without the smoke, and for painting of flax-seed oil.

In addition to these valuable properties it is likewise asserted that the flower-cups are very esculent and agreeable when prepared and eaten as artichokes;—the stalks are excellent substitute for hemp, and the flowers when in bloom the best pasture known for bees; and, finally that it is very prolific, affording, ordinarily, with proper cultivation, from eighty to one hundred bushels per acre, on barren soils.

The last statement, however, we think erroneous. From sixty to eighty bushels will doubtless be found a heavy crop on any soil, while on thin, light lands the average yield with the best possible cultivation would not in all probability exceed forty or fifty at the most. One reason, and indeed the principal one why we discredit this statement is the well known physiological fact that the sun flower is a gross feeder, and that consequently no soil of a barren texture, can be suitable or well adapted to its growth. By a series of very accurate and highly ingenious experiments instituted by the learned Hales, it was correctly demonstrated that a plant of the sun-flower species, weighing three pounds, actually transpires, or throws off by its emunctories the prodigious quantity of twenty-two ounces in twenty-four hours, or nearly half its weight; whereas Kelt, by a series of experiments equally accurate, determined that in his own person he perspired only thirty one ounces in the same period of time. This man, however, ate and drank but 4 lbs. 10 oz. while the plant appropriated seventeen times as much nourishment as was required to sustain the former!

This is certainly, however, a much larger quantity than plants ordinarily transpire in the same period of time, but as the experiment was conducted with the most accurate and philosophical precision, we have no basis for doubt as to the correctness of the statements of the learned gentlemen by whom they were made.

In our own experiments upon this plant, we have invari-

ably found it to do best when planted on good ground. By the term good, as here applied, we mean a soil ordinarily rich and fertile, and such, in short, as would, without much expense in manuring, produce good wheat or corn. On soils of this character, the sun-flower, if properly attended, is a sure and profitable crop. As a winter feed for fowls, we regard the seed as preferable even to corn; it being a powerful promoter of fecundity, and what certainly is of no small consequence during winter, obviates in a great measure the necessity of furnishing them with animal food, without which, is some quantity, most of our domestic fowls, and especially the hen, will generally cease to lay.

Swine, also, are very fond of it. But here the greatest caution is requisite, as by too profuse feeding, a morbid habit will be induced which ten to one will eventuate in serious consequences, and perhaps loss.—*w.*

MODE OF INCREASING THE GROWTH OF POTATOES.—The flowers being cut off as they appeared on the plants, the number of potatoes produced was much greater than where the blossoms had remained untouched. Early in October, the stem and leaves of the plants which had not borne flowers were strong and green; the others yellow, and in a state of decay. The plants which had been stripped of flowers produced (on the same space of ground) about four times the weight of large potatoes; very few small ones being found. Those on which the flowers and fruit had been left, produced but a small number of middling sized potatoes, with a great number of little ones, from the size of a common filbert to that of a walnut.

MASON AND DIXON'S LINE.—This famous line is so often mentioned in and out of Congress that to American ears its name is familiar as household words. Its history and location are not, however, so well or generally known but that the annexed article from the Salem-Gazette will be found to contain information, new at least to some of our readers, on this subject.

MASON AND DIXON'S LINE.—This boundary is so termed from the names of Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon—two gentlemen who were appointed to run unfinished lines in 1762, between Pennsylvania and Maryland, on the Territories subject to the heirs of Penn and Lord Baltimore. A temporary line had been run in 1739, but had not given satisfaction to disputing parties, although it resulted from an agreement in 1730, between themselves.—A decree had been made in 1618 by King James, delineating the boundaries between the lands given by charter to the first Lord Baltimore, and those adjudged to his Majesty [afterwards to William Penn] which divided the tract of land between Delaware Bay and Chesapeake Bay, by a line equally intersecting it, drawn from Cape Henlopen to the 40th degree of north latitude. A decree in chancery rendered the King's decree imperative. But the situation of Henlopen became long a subject of serious, protracted and expensive litigation, particularly after the death of Penn, in 1718, and Lord Baltimore in 1714, until John and Richard and Thomas Penn, (who had become the sole proprietors of the American possessions of their father William) and Cecilias, the original patentee, entered into an agreement on the 19th of May, 1772. To this agreement a chart was appended, which ascertained the site of Cape Henlopen and delineated a division by an east and west line, running westward from that Cape to the exact middle of the peninsula.

Lord Baltimore became dissatisfied with this agreement, and endeavored to evade it.—Chancery suits, kindly decrees, and proprietary arrangements followed, which eventually produced the appointment of commissioners to run the temporary line; this was effected in 1739. But the case in chancery being decided in 1739, new commissioners were appointed who could not, however, agree, and the question remained open until 1762, when the line was run by Messrs. Mason and Dixon.

The society for the improvement of flax in Ireland offers one hundred guineas reward for the construction of a machine for breaking the woody part of flax from the fibre, and for scutching.

Exquisite.—In Hungerford market, a lady laying her hand on a joint of veal, said to the butcher, 'I think Mr. B. this veal is not so white as usual.' 'Put on your glove, madam, replied the dealer, 'and you'll think differently.'

IMPROVED SWEETS OF HOGS—As we have been instrumental in procuring pigs of the improved breeds of swine for many of our friends at a distance, and feel a deep interest in their proving ultimately satisfactory to their respective owners, we hope we may be indulged in a few remarks with regard to their treatment. There is no better established fact in the whole economy of breeding, than that the best bred animals, if niggardly fed, and badly taken care of, will, after a few generations, degenerate, and lose much of their original family distinctiveness of character. It is equally true, that, so far as size is concerned, much depends upon the manner in which a young animal is kept the first winter. If he be consigned to uncomfortable lodgings, and short commons, during that period, his dimensions will be proportionally diminished; whereas, on the contrary, if good warm, dry and comfortable quarters be provided for him, and his food be nutritious, substantial, and in proper quantity, so will his growth and development of frame bear a corresponding increase. He who pays an extra price for pigs, of any particular breed, if he desires that they should come up to his expectations of their worth, must act upon the principle, that the skin must be put upon that discipline, which will render it indispensable to stretch, in order to accommodate the living carcass which it covers. Sir John Falstaff, himself, with all his predisposition to pinguetation, never would have become a mountain of flesh, if the good dame Quickly had not suffered him to run up his score.

THIN RIND PIGS—We received a few days since from Mr. Wm. K. Townsend, of N. Haven, Conn. a pair of thin rind pigs, for a gentleman of Virginia. They are about 3½ months old, and large of their age. The boar is of a light bluish color, the sow black and white, and both give indication of being of superior descent. The former has great length of body, round in the barrel, with good hams and shoulders, small neck and head, ears pricked much after the fashion of the black Berkshires, legs of moderate length and small bones. The same remarks will apply to the sow pig, except that she has less length of waist. This breed of hogs are distinguished for being kind feeders, coming to early maturity at heavy weights, and for an admirable distribution of fat and lean.

Mr. Townsend writes us that he has recently purchased in New York, of Mr. J. A. Dayton, his entire stock of Woburn hogs, comprising 3 imported Sows and a Boar, and Sow from the fine imported animals that took the premiums at the Fair in N. York last Fall; they cost him a great price, but they are valuable animals. Mr. T. will receive orders either for the Woburn or Thin Rind pigs, deliverable in N. York at \$20 per pair, or in Baltimore at \$25.

CATTLE—The Centreville (Md.) Sentinel says that in consequence of the great loss (2000 head) of cattle sustained last winter, the farmers of Queen Anne have determined to sell off many of their cattle, and reserve no more than they can keep in good condition throughout the winter. Many of those convenient to a market are offering their cattle for sale, but find few purchasers. Our friends in that county have purchased their wisdom at a dear rate—we hope it will not be lost upon them, and that they will not keep more than they can keep well, and let these be of good breeds.

STOCK FOR THE SOUTH—In passing along the wharf a few days ago, we noticed on board the Charleston packet just then ready to sail, a bull and heifer of the short horn Durham breed, and we had no difficulty in recognizing in the former a decided favorite of ours, which we had often looked on with admiration in the herd of Mr. Belzhoover, near this city. We learn that he was purchased by a gentleman of Georgia, who has got a real prize, and he

will probably, in introducing him into the Valley regions of the South, be apt to be the means of creating the sin of envy in some of his neighbors.

In shipping on board the "Irish Ferry" for N. Orleans, the noble boar "Pickwick," from Mr. Stanley's piggery, and some fine young pigs from that of Mr. Gorsuch, destined for Mississippi, we found, also for the same vicinity, another fine short horn bull, "Defiance the 3d," bred by Mr. J. H. B. Fulton, near this city—this bull is out of Mr. David Stuart's celebrated butter cow which was purchased of John Barney, esq. of Delaware, and produced from 15 to 20 lbs. of butter per week—He will be found a valuable animal for the neighborhood to which he is bound, and the improvement of the stock thereof will be speedily made manifest through him—Accompanying the bull is some of the beautiful Devon stock, heifers, from the same breeder's herd, and are intended for a cross from the Durham bull, for the purpose of obtaining oxen, having the quick step and active spirit of the former combined with the strength and size of the latter. We wish them a safe and speedy passage to their future home.

SLAVEHOLDERS CONVENTION—In obedience to a recommendation of the meeting at Ellicott's Mills for a Slaveholders Convention, to be held at Annapolis in January next, a very respectable meeting was held at Annapolis on the 27th ult. at which Tho. Snowden, esq. presided, and C. Hodges acted as Secretary; when five delegates from each district of Anne Arundel co. and the city of Annapolis, were appointed to attend said convention.

It was recommended by the above meeting that the convention meet on the second Wednesday of January.

A meeting is called at Reisterstown, on the 13th inst. for the purpose of appointing delegates to represent Baltimore county in the above convention.

ADVICE—Let it be the studied object of every farmer from this until the opening of spring, to increase his manure heap by every means within the reach of his ability. "Money," says the philosopher, "is time," but we say, that manure is both money and time.

It should be the object of every farmer to make labor go as far as possible, and the surest road to success is, to manure well; for in proportion as this is done, will crops increase in quantity as well as quality.

MARSH MUD should now be dug out and formed in a compost with lime or marl, the which, by spring, will be in a fine condition to manure your corn-fields or top-dress your grass-lands.

An article was recently published in this paper on the subject of the vegetation of the seeds of plants, by being placed on the surface of untilled ground. A correspondent of the Boston Courier says it reminds him of a similar experiment, made in Coventry, Conn., some twenty-five years ago, by the Rev. Mr. Abiel, as follows:

He occupied a small rough farm, and having a pasture very thickly covered with small bushes, brakes, &c., he cut them down, and laid potatoes on the surface, at suitable distances, and then the bushes, &c. over them, adding some straw, enough to cover them so thick as to keep them moist, and did nothing more to them until autumn; when he removed the covering and found a fine crop of potatoes, on the surface of the ground, waiting only to be picked up!

FRENCH BEET SUGAR—By the subjoined extract, which we copy from a letter of the observant Paris correspondent of the National Intelligencer, it will be seen that notwithstanding the dolorous lamentations which were indulged in by French editors, in consequence of the increase of duty, that this arm of industry has not decreased in the least, upwards of ninety millions of pounds having been manufactured during the last year, and it will

not be a little gratifying to the friends of this manufacture in this country to learn, that the art has been brought to such perfection in France as to make Loaf Sugar by the first process.

"At the recent French Scientific Congress, at Lyons, a copious and able memoir was read from FELLEBERG, on the nature, plans, objects, and results of the agricultural and educational establishments which he founded and has superintended for forty years at Hofwil, near Bern. Long since, we heard much in the United States of FELLEBERG and his institute. The Scientific Congress appointed a committee to prosecute inquiries at Hofwil and other similar establishments, with a view to the formation, somewhere in France, of a normal and special institute for agriculture and moral culture combined. The French public economists only begin to see the reciprocal utility of physical welfare and lettered education for the millions. It has been the fashion, with their Republican and high philosophical professors, to decry material interests. Michel Chevalier labors hard to teach them that they will cease to be the rulers, and, perhaps, even the luminaries, of the world, if they do not condescend to lay rails, finish canals, apply steam, in short, put the body of the nation in a way to rise in the world. I observe that, in an article in the Journal des Debats, of the 19th ultimo, the same writer recommends the growing of cotton in the French colonies, not as retaliation on the United States, or rivalry, but as a practicable addition to French sources of national wealth and independence. Chevalier published, also, last month, an interesting exposition of the Beet-root manufacture. In France, the three hundred and eighty-nine factories yield, this year, ninety million pounds of sugar. Notwithstanding the outcry of universal ruin, raised by the manufacturers when the tax was increased from eleven to twenty-seven francs the 200 lbs., the production did not diminish between 1837 and 1840. Belgium makes sixteen million pounds—half her consumption of the article; the German Union thirty millions—a third of its consumption; Austria the same, but consumes one hundred and ten millions of foreign sugar. Chevalier estimates the total consumption of "the most industrious and flourishing countries of Europe" of Beet-root sugar at one hundred and seventy-six million pounds—not a third of the whole. He admits that twenty millions of francs might be the annual gain of the treasury, if the Beet manufacture was prohibited in France; but, then, the measure would require an indemnity of forty millions to the manufacturers and throw out of employ a great number of hands. He pronounces any flourishing manufacture to be a moral not less than material capital—a guaranty of internal peace and social concord. On the whole, a vast manufacturing system would not seem to have this character in Great Britain, where the new ministers are threatened in Parliament and by the Press with a terrible eruption, this winter, of "the slumbering volcano," unless they provide immediate relief for the factories and operatives. Your boundless territory open to a countless population, would, with you, subtract considerably from the force of the French argument. We are told that, in two of the largest French Beet factories, the problem of making refined sugar *de premier jet*, at first cast, has been solved on a great scale. The great manufacturer Matthieu de Dombasle uses maceration as the process of extraction; it simplifies apparatus and labor, and neutralizes the causes of waste; he obtains 95 for 100 of juice, instead of 70, the former yield, and ten per cent of sugar easily. This process has been adopted in several establishments, foreign as well as domestic. The complaint comes from Nantz and Marseilles, that potato sugar, worth seven sous the pound, is mixed with colonial costing eleven, and the compound is sold, of course, at full price. It is not less difficult to procure in Paris any quantity, however small, of cane sugar, pure, than an ounce of genuine salt, or a glass of simple grape juice."

GIANT CLOVER—The subjoined is a description of the clover for which a prize was awarded by the Yorkshire Agricultural Society:—"Giant Clover (*melilotus leucantha maxima*) grows to a height of eight to fifteen feet; should be sown in March or April, about fifty grains to a square foot; one pound weight of seed contains about 200,000 grains; to obtain tall plants or for seed, it is enough to sow ten grains to a square foot; it grows well on all soils except in swampy ground; the plants are believed to last thirty years in the same ground; they reach their perfec-

tion in the second or third year." A small quantity of seed was sown in a box in the month of April, 1839, at Ridgmont; the box was placed under glass, where it remained until the plants attained to the height of from one to two inches; they were then transplanted in the open air, and had very soon to sustain some of the most severe frosty nights, which we had in the month of May, but did not appear to be at all affected by it—they soon began to grow at the rate of one inch in 24 hours.

Mr. SANDS:—The following article on raising Chestnut, Hickory, Walnut and Oak, and other forest trees, from seed, has been sent to me by the author; and I feel that I cannot better promote the object of the writer than by requesting its publication in the American Farmer. I may be permitted to add that the plan adopted by Mr. Olmsted is in accordance with the well known principles of vegetable physiology, and with the experience of the best cultivators of forest trees in Europe and America. My own limited experience also testifies to its correctness. This is just the season for securing the Chestnuts, Acorns, &c., and I recommend the subject to the attention of proprietors of landed estates, particularly those deficient in a supply of fence timber.

Respectfully,

GIDEON B. SMITH.

From the Hartford (Conn.) Daily Courant, of October 25.

RAISING FOREST TREES.

George Olmsted, Esq., of East Hartford, was requested by a vote of the Hartford County Agricultural Society to submit a written statement of his views and experience in regard to the rearing of Forest Trees. He has been so obliging as to submit his views briefly, in a letter to the President of the Society, which is hereby subjoined.

H. L. MILLER, Recording Sec'y.

Hartford, Oct. 21, 1841.

EAST HARTFORD, Oct. 8th, 1841.

Mr. Charles A. Goodrick, President of the Hartford County Agricultural Society.

DEAR SIR,—Agreeably to your request, I now give a statement of my experiment in planting Walnuts or Hickory Nuts, and Chestnuts.

About the middle of April 1839, my brother sent me a half peck of Chestnuts which had been kept through the winter by being placed in a sand hill, when in a green state mixed up with sand. The nuts had begun to sprout when they were sent to me. I planted them in a row in my field, near the fence, in the same manner I would a row of peas, about the same depth, placing a little mellow manure in the bottom of the drills which was covered with earth before the nuts were sown. In a few weeks they came up well, and to appearance every nut came up as well as so many kernels of good seed corn. I harrowed the row with a horse harrow, and hoed them as I would a row of peas, two or three times. Their cultivation since the first year, has been neglected. The young trees have grown well, notwithstanding the neglect in their cultivation. I think, however, that they should have been ploughed with a horse plough or cultivator, and they would have grown enough faster to have paid for the labor. I think the ground should be ploughed about the middle of April, or at the season for sowing oats and peas, and if the land is poor, I would place mellow manure, swamp muck, or pond mud, in the bottom of the rows.

The rows for planting the nuts should be placed about 6 feet apart, which would admit a row of beans or potatoes between them, and the distance in the rows I would have from 2 to 3 feet. The nuts or acorns should be placed in earth in the fall of the year, when in a green state, as drying kills the vitality, as it does the seeds of stone fruit, such as peaches, plums, &c.

When the ground is prepared for the young forest, the nuts or acorns should be taken from their place of deposit, and sown immediately, when the young trees are up 2 or 3 inches they should be harrowed and hoed, and then harrowed and hoed 2 or 3 times in the course of the first season; in subsequent years the horse plough or cultivator should be used between the rows. I think they should be cultivated 4 or 5 years, and then cut down, which would cause the young roots to throw up an additional number of sprouts which would grow straight, as chestnut trees grow crooked when they first come from the seed. I do not know at what time the balls from pine trees should

be gathered for planting, but presume the fall is the right time; a few experiments will tell. The seeds of white ash, maple, elm, &c., should be gathered and sown at the time when they fall from the trees in the summer season. Nuts or acorns may be sown in the fall, but a large part of them will be destroyed by squirrels and other vermin before they come up. The ground also becomes hard and full of weeds, which is a serious objection to planting in the fall.

The seeds of forest trees may be sown broad cast, but the young forest would be much retarded in its growth for want of cultivation.

After being cultivated 4 or 5 years, it would require no other care except excluding cattle for a few of the first years after the chestnut trees are cut down. The want of wood and timber, especially chestnut timber, is seriously felt in many of our towns. How many who have more land than they can cultivate well, would do well to put a part of their farms into young forests. One year ago, I gave my little boy 6 years old, 10 green shag-bark walnuts, directing him to plant them in a corner of the garden, and for safety against accidents, to place a flat stone over them during the winter and remove it in the spring. The ten nuts all came up well, and are now growing on a spot of ground the size of a man's hand.

I would ask if one has friends, or owns land in one of the Western States, where timber is scarce, would he not do well to forward a barrel or box of walnuts, chestnuts, hickernuts, beechnuts, pine balls and acorns, together with the best of peach, plum, and apricot stones, packed in dirt, before the close of inland navigation this fall, that not only the seeds of our forests and garden trees, but even the soil of New England may be mingled with the extensive Prairies of the West.

Had America's noble adopted son, the immortal Lafayette, been aware of these facts, would he not have caused the seeds of our forests to have been mingled with the hogshead of earth he carried home from America, to form a bed for his last resting place, that while his bones were reposing in the soil of his adopted country they might have been shaded by the trees of his stately forests, emblematical of the greenness of gratitude which the American people will ever cherish towards the memory of their illustrious friend and eminent benefactor.

I am informed that a gentleman residing in Quincy, Illinois, has been at great expense to introduce the most valuable kinds of fruit and forest trees into that section of country with good success, and in doing so, had ordered a box of chestnuts, in the fall of the year, from a neighboring State, packed in sand. The box was conveyed to Quincy by one of his neighbors, who was very negligent of his charge, and placed the box in his cellar, which remained there all winter, and the first incident that reminded him of his neglect was, that he noticed the box had burst open by the sprouting of the nuts within, which were more vigilant than their conductor. He went immediately to the gentleman, for whom he had brought them, and acquainted him with the fact. The gentleman was pleased to learn that his chestnuts had come, and were then in a fair way to thrive. He then planted them without delay in the margin of his garden, were my informant saw them growing luxuriantly. If we will follow the example of the gentleman of Illinois, I have no doubt but that many valuable new kinds of fruit and forest trees may be introduced and thrive in our soil and climate. I would propose sir, that liberal premiums be now offered for the best acre, or fraction of an acre, of forest trees of not more than one year's growth, raised from the seed. I offer it now, sir, that the competitors may provide themselves with seed in season for next year's planting, and possibly our example may be followed by other agricultural societies, which may be the preliminary steps towards furnishing our road sides with pleasant shades, and clothing our barren hills and sandy plains with young vigorous forests, which will banish all apprehensions of a future want of wood and timber in many of our towns. In Prussia it is said, that the laws compel men to set out shade trees by the road side. Can we not by offering premiums, effect the same object in a less objectionable way than asking for a law upon the subject.

I am told, that a Mr. Zephaniah Allen of East Windsor, in this county, planted an acre of chestnuts, after he was forty years old, and that he cut two good crops of wood and timber from the land during his life time. I am assured by a neighbor of Mr. Allen, (an old gentleman) that Mr. A. cut forty foot sticks of timber from the land which he planted, of which he made shingles. It must be re-

marked, however, that the life of Mr. A. was unusually protracted, as he lived to be 85 years old. If we begin forests now, if we do not live to reap the harvest, the crop may prove a rich inheritance to our posterity.

Respectfully yours,

GEORGE OLMSTED.

Since the above was written, Col. E. W. Bull, of Hartford, presented to the Hartford County Agricultural Society, chestnuts which he gathered from a tree he raised from seed, planted by himself only nine years ago.

FARMERS, CUT YOUR FODDER.—As the great mass of farmers in this vicinity, appear to be ignorant of the advantages of making use of cut feed for their stock, I will give you the outline of my experiment this season, hoping that it will be the means of inducing many others to make a trial. It was sometime in February last I procured an improved Straw Cutter, (Gibson's Patent,) and having a quantity of rye straw, and knowing I should be short of hay, I concluded by making the best use I could with my straw, I could with little labor, make a saving equal to a ton of hay worth \$15; and thus save more than one half the expense of the machine this season. But the result is much more favorable, for in addition to my rye straw, I had about three tons of coarse fodder, consisting of different proportions of swamp hay, rye, wheat, buckwheat, and pea straw; to this mixed mass, I added as I cut it, about one fourth part good had. I fed this to my cattle (15 in number,) just as it came from the machine; they fed on it with a good relish, appeared satisfied, and rather improved in condition. Instead, therefore, of saving only half the expense of my machine, I have saved more than the first cost, (\$20,) and had I obtained one last fall, it would have saved more than \$50.

I verily believe that one third more stock might be kept on farms generally by our would-be economical farmers turning to good account all their coarse fodder. By obtaining a good machine, I have saved three tons of good fodder, which otherwise would scarcely have been worth three hundred of good hay.

To my team horses, one span, I give 20 quarts ground oats with as much cut straw as they will eat, they prefer this feed to clear oats, and are in first rate working order. The length I cut my straw, &c. three fourths of an inch, although I see no objections to cutting it longer for cattle.

Brother farmers, are not these things worthy your attention? Will you try the experiment?—Purchase some good machine—[there are some excellent Straw Cutters for sale by manufacturers in the city of Baltimore]—every farmer ought to have one.

Bennington, Vt., May 15, 1841.

RICHARD FISK, Cultivator.

MOTT'S AGRICULTURAL FURNACE.—When I gave a notice, last fall, of the above, I did not expect to be called on for any particular information respecting sizes, prices, &c. and had no further interest in the business than to introduce it to the farmers. But having received so many letters of inquiry on the subject, and to save me the trouble of answering them individually, I will, with permission reply through the medium of this paper.

The one I purchased last fall I continued in use during the winter, and have found no reason to alter the opinion then expressed; but on the contrary, I am more confirmed, and do not hesitate, without qualification, to recommend it, with the late improvements, some of which were suggested by R. in the 2d number of the present volume of this paper, as superior to any thing, for the purpose intended, which I have ever used, or which has fallen under my observation.

Mr. Mott has lately sent me one of the capacity of two barrels, containing the improvements, which consist in casting "points of attachment" or gudgeons, on the rim or sides of the kettle, "so that with a crane or lever" it may be raised out of the casing and the contents emptied out, and to facilitate which, a loop or eye is cast on the bottom of the kettle so that it can be done without burning the fingers. The flange also, has been extended beyond the edge of the casing, so that if water boil over it will not run down the flues and put out the fire.

There was an error in my former communication which I take the present opportunity to rectify. I said "one furnace will suit the different sizes of cauldrons, varying from one to four barrels," &c. This arose in copying an advertisement, which referred to the first that was made, where the casing extended only part of the way.

When it is considered that they require only a small piece of pipe to conduct the smoke, they will be found less costly, and take up less room, than those set in brick, when furnace doors, grates, bricks, lime, and the inconvenience of obtaining masons, are taken into the account, besides the convenience of lifting off and on to clean the flue or empty the contents.

In answer to a letter I addressed to Mr. Mott, he says:—"I have sold them to farmers to boil food for stock—to go to Cuba for boiling sugar—to the upholsterers to boil hair—to bakers—druggists—tallow chandlers—to boil and bleach oil—to make starch—to steam and boil wood—to dyers—to the shipwright to boil tar and pitch, without the danger of its taking fire, as it may boil over—many have been sold for washing, and I have sent some on whaling and sealing voyages." "My prices are as follows; for half barrels \$11—barrels \$18—one and a half barrel \$21—two barrels \$28—three barrels \$35—and four barrels \$45. The furnace part is made very heavy, so that it will be very durable."

"I am sending many into Virginia, where they take well among the planters." CALSB. N. BEMENT.

Albany Cultivator.

[We have understood that these boilers are manufactured in this city: we have not been able to learn by whom, but shall make farther enquiry in relation thereto.—*AM. FAR.*]

HOUSES FOR TOOLS.

"*Economy is Wealth.*"—Every farmer should provide himself with a convenient building for the store of his tools during winter. The cost of such a structure would be but slight, contrasted with its importance, and would be convenient for other purposes when not needed for the protection of tools. Most farmers are shockingly remiss in this particular, and many who are emulous of being thought "good farmers," and who are really exemplary patterns, in other respects, lose annually far more by the careless exposure of their tools, during winter, than would be required to keep them in complete repair the year round.

How often indeed is it the case that we see the yards of farm-houses, clustered and encumbered with wheels, carriages, and drags, sometimes buried in snow and ice, and sometimes partially protected by a temporary shed or covering of boards! And how often are the feelings of the economical farmer shocked, during his winter peregrinations, by that most revolting of all sights—a cart stationed beneath the barn window in order that it may be ready loaded in the spring!

Visit the domicile of such a farmer, and ten to one you will find his wood-house sans wood, and his children without shoes. Such economy is not wealth, and reminds one of the use practiced by the negro who hung up his pig to fat, in order to obviate the difficulty of lifting him when he became a hog. H. D. W.

N. E. Farmer. Windham, Me. Oct. 1, 1841.

CHEAP ROOFS.—The simple mode of roofing out-houses by nailing thin boards on light rafters, may be introduced to very great advantage, particularly in the country. It is only to subject boards before using to the action of fire, by way of thoroughly seasoning them; nail them on immediately, and cover them with sheathing-paper and a dressing of tar; and a covering, almost for a life-time, may safely be calculated upon.

The rafters, 3 inches deep, 1½ thick; the boards half-an-inch thick, straightened on the edges and closely nailed. The following composition for covering such a roof was employed at Wickham twenty years ago, and is at the present time as good as when first laid. The roof is nearly flat, having a run of one inch only to the foot, the boards being securely nailed and covered with a course of sheathing-paper, such as is used under the copper-sheathing of ships, made fast by small flat-headed nails. To 8 gallons of common tar, add 2 gallons of Roman cement, 6 lbs. of rosin and 3 lbs. of tallow; boil and well-stir the ingredients so as thoroughly to incorporate them, and lay on to the roof while hot, with a brush, spreading it very evenly; then sprinkle it while hot with sharp, sifted sand, and when cold, tar and sand as before, after which a single coat of tar once in five or six years will preserve the roof for an age.

To the above may be added, an incombustible, impenetrable wash, prepared according to the following directions. Slake stone-lime with hot water in a tub, covering it to keep in the steam; pass six quarts of it through a

sieve, it being in the state of fine dry powder, and add to it one quart of fine salt and two gallons of water, boiling and skimming it. To every five gallons of this boiled mixture, add one pound of alum, half-a-pound of coppers, and by slow degrees half-a-pound of potash and four quarts of fine sharp sand. The mixture will now admit of any colouring-matter that might be preferred, and is to be applied with a brush. It looks better than paint, and is as durable as stone; it will stop leaks in a roof, prevent the moss from growing and injuring the wood, rendering it incombustible; and when laid upon brick-work, causing it to become impenetrable to rain or moisture. G. D.

FRUIT TREES.

We venture to assert that there are no products of the farm, that afford more pleasure and profit on the amount invested, than well cultivated orchards. After fruit trees begin to bear, with careful pruning and manuring, with a little pleasant labor, every farmer may receive a handsome income at a trifling annual expense. Those little, neat and beautiful villages, based on the various branches of the mechanic arts, and manufactures, with which I am happy to say, the whole surface of New England is literally dotted over, are truly home markets for all our fruit. While the increased facilities for communication with our large cities, enable farmers to send off their fruit at a great distance without danger.

There is a small farm in West Cambridge of about sixty acres, from which the sale of apples alone amounts to \$2000 per annum; and the trees on this farm are not over twenty years old. The owner of this farm was not governed by the foolish notion that he who sets out an orchard, is necessarily laboring for posterity. He has made his last days his happiest and most profitable. He now can enjoy a green old age, exempt from that severe labor, which hoed and grain crops require.

This is an example calculated to arouse to immediate action in the transplanting and cultivating their orchards.

In the rapid progress of manufactures and the mechanic arts, field laborers have become scarce and wages high, considering the relative price of products. Few of our educated sons will stick to the plough—therefore economy of labor becomes a great consideration with all farmers.

Not long since, we were in an unadorned garden of a mechanic, full of the very best of fruit—pears, plums, grapes, apples, all in abundance. He was then plucking his fine, large Bartlett pears from his two year old scions to prevent them breaking.

We said to him, sir, your garden must be very profitable. "Yes, sir, says he—from that early pear tree I have sold 25 dollars worth of fruit this season."

Where my garden now stands, seventeen years ago there were no trees growing except wild alders, and within that time, I have done what you see in the way of Fruit.

As soon as I purchased this lot of ground, I resolved to have all the best fruit that would grow in our climate. I immediately set myself at work and the result you see before you.

Farmers, procrastinate no longer—now, now is the time. Set out this fall or next spring that orchard you have so long been talking of. Let the land lay well up to the sun—be under a high state of cultivation. If the subsoil is hard, and almost impervious to water and the land rather wet at times, put through the subsoil plough, or dig out the hard subsoil under your trees and supply its place with rich loam and soil.

Let your trees be well protected from the ravages of cattle, and the land be kept in tillage for several years—or all the time according to the nature of your fruit.

If you intend to get your trees from a nursery, you can get better trees in the fall. They should not be large—from 5 to 7 feet high. The trees should be taken up with much more care than they are usually taken up in your absence, by hiring men at our large nurseries. They should be taken up with the roots as entire as possible, the broken roots cut off smooth—and the remaining roots placed down in their natural directions, and we think no lower in the ground than they were found; and no potatoes should be planted about the trees in the spring to starve them out—or manure put about the roots. In the fall, great care should be taken not to have the roots touched with the frost when they are taken up for transplanting, and at no time is it best to let them remain long out

of the ground. It is well enough to put coarse chaff or fine damp straw about the trees on the surface of the ground in the spring, but this will not do in the fall, for it will attract mice, which will injure trees very much by gnawing and girdling them.

Young farmer, anticipate the faltering step; the diminished strength of age—and lay now the foundation for an income from your farms, which shall leave you leisure enough in advanced life for social and religious enjoyments, while it will enable you, as it were, to live over again the brightest hopes and most useful period of your lives.—*Bos. Cul.*

GLOUCESTER COUNTY, N. JERSEY, AGAINST THE WORLD.—Tonkin's Cattle.—We were highly gratified a few days since, while on a visit to the Farm of Mr. Edward Tonkin, at seeing a part of his stock of fat cattle. The public well remembers the pair of extraordinary cattle which Mr. Tonkin raised a few years ago. They have not since been matched or equalled by any grazer in the Union. For beauty or symmetry, size, &c. they challenged the admiration and excited the astonishment of every beholder. But pre-eminent as Mr. T. proved himself as a breeder and grazer, his present stock places him immeasurably beyond all competition. He has now six oxen and one heifer, all grazing together, which he may challenge the world to excel. We say the world, and it is not said in vain boasting; for we are borne out by the opinion of competent judges, and those having some knowledge of the stock in this country and in England. The pair which he fattened about three years ago, weighed then over six thousand weight; there are probably four of those now referred to which are equal if not superior to either of them, and the two others are so little less that it will require a judge to tell the difference.—As for the Heifer, she has not probably her equal in any of the much famed herds of Old England. They are all from Mr. Tonkin's own stock and raising, and are between seven and eight years old: Five are half blood Durhams, and one three-quarters, crossed with the native stock. The heifer, we believe, is full blood Durham.—We wish they could be exhibited at the Agricultural Exhibition of New Brunswick the present week, they would be no small object of attraction!

Mr. Tonkin has two bulls, full blooded Durhams.—Rodney, from Whitaker's stock, and the Comet of New Jersey, of his own raising,—which are very beautiful animals, and for symmetry, point and size, will compare advantageously with the famous Colostr.

We had not an opportunity of seeing the remainder of Mr. T.'s stock, which is considerable, as they were upon another part of his premises. We understand however they are very fine.

Our graziers and farmers should take the first opportunity (or make one) to go and see them, while they are upon the ground. For the information of gentlemen at a distance we would remark that Mr. Tonkin resides about a mile from Clark'sboro', on the road leading from Woodbury to Salem, 16 miles distant from Camden.—*N.J. ps.*

CATTLE SHOWS.—These farmers' festivals—these opportunities to meet with brother farmers—these occasions for showing the best productions of one's own farm and of witnessing the fine animals, the skilful plowing, or the large and fair fruits of his brother farmers—these occasions are now close at hand, and we trust that every farmer will give them his presence and aid. To every one who would improve in his modes of husbandry, these gatherings of the tillers of the earth, bringing with them their beasts and the products of their fields, can and do teach many valuable lessons.

It would be but slight departure from fact to call our cattle shows as efficient instruments for awakening an interest in agricultural pursuits, as any means that are in operation. Here something can always be seen that will furnish some useful suggestion or hint. Here animals, and fine specimens of animals, of different breeds may be compared with each other. Here one can learn whether he probably has as good a breed of swine, sheep or cattle as the county or State contains. The fruits and vegetables exhibited will bring to his notice some valuable kind which is not on his own premises. Here inquiries can be made of the successful growers of crops as to their modes of treatment and other particulars upon which information is desirable. It is an occasion for giving and imparting information that may be highly serviceable in extending the fruits of experience from one farmer to another.

THE SUBSCRIBER

Would respectfully inform his friends and the public generally that he has now on hand, CORN and COB CRUSHERS, invented by James & Wm. Murray, that will do more work with the same power than any other now in use—such as exhibited at the Agricultural Meeting, Govanstown, Baltimore County, still further improved, and also such as now in use on the Farms of Doct. Dorey and Henry Schwartz, Esq., Hand Corn Shellers, and can warrant Corn shellers of his manufacture to shell out from thirty to two hundred bushels of corn per hour; one small steam Engine, 4 H.P.; one Stationary Horse power, new; one second hand Horse Power; 2 Turning Lathes, new; superior Mill Screws; 2 small Mills for horse power; 1 Mortice Machine, new; Machine Making—such as Boring Machines, &c. &c. Model Making; Pattern Making; and Mill Wrighting in all its various branches done by the subscriber at the shortest notice.

JAS. MURRAY, Mill Wright,
no 3 w 6 York, near Light st., Baltimore.
Ord. through the Post Office will meet prompt attention.

DAVENPORT'S PATENT HORSE POWER, THRASHING AND WINNOWING MACHINE.

The subscriber would respectfully inform farmers and others interested in Agricultural pursuits, that he has purchased the sole right for the use, manufacture, and vending the said machines for the States of Maryland and Virginia. The thrasher and cleaner are constructed that it requires no more time or labor in preparing the Grain for market, than ordinary machines do in thrashing only, and but little if any more than it would to cart and stack the same, 350 bushels of wheat or 400 bushels of oats may be done per day, with much ease. These machines are portable and may be easily transported by one pair of horses, and to be used in the field or barn.

They may truly be said to be Labour saving Machines, four horses being abundantly able to do the work by the week or month with much ease. It is confidently believed they are vastly superior in their model to any other now in use.

Certificates from hundreds of the most extensive and respectable farmers in Pennsylvania and Maryland can be obtained, testifying to their superior excellence, not only to the manner of thrashing and cleaning the Grain, but also for their adaption for service, being very simple in their construction, and not liable to break or get out of order.

It is however, quite unnecessary to say much in regard to their utility, further, than to call public attention to them, as it is presumed every farmer will want to satisfy himself by seeing them in their operations.

The subscriber intends shortly to commence the manufacture of them and will send them to different parts of the State to be put in operation when those interested may have an opportunity of judging for themselves.

J. CROSSY, Proprietor,
41 South Charles street, Baltimore.

N. B. Any person wishing to purchase the right of counties for said machine or machines will please apply as above.
cc 27 2m

GREAT IMPROVEMENTS.

HUSSEY'S REAPING MACHINE—CORN-SHELLER AND HUSKER—CORN & COB CRUSHER & GRINDER.

A great improvement has been made by the subscriber in the Reaping Machine since last year; the cog-wheel machines now making for 1842, will combine all the material advantages of both the cog wheel and cam wheel machines as made last year. By means of these improvements, the machine is made capable of cutting 6 feet in width with the same facility that it cut 5 feet last year—their durability is also greatly increased. The cam wheel and lever machines will also be made for those who choose them; they are also much improved. An experimental machine of each kind was prepared and used in the last harvest, by which the improvements now offered were fully tested. Both machines are warranted bona fide—price \$150.

The Corn Sheller and Husker is warranted to shell 100 bushels per hour with proper management and moderate exertion. A gentleman of the highest respectability in Washington county, Md. assured me that he shelled 590 bushels in 3 1/2 hours with one of these machines. It is also warranted to shell and husk at the same operation as fast as two men can put in the corn by handfuls of 6 ears at a time—when the corn is poured from a basket, the husk or chaff will in some degree impede its entrance; it is for this reason that husked corn will shell so much more rapidly. This machine has recently been much improved by the subscriber. It can be driven by any ordinary horse power—price \$30.

The Corn and Cob Crusher and Grinder is a late improvement by the subscriber, a new arrangement—in the first hour which it over ran, which was on the 22d inst. it crushed and ground from corn in the ear 8 1/2 bushels—the gentleman on whose place it was tried, a few miles from the city, expresses his satisfaction with the quality of its work. The mill is strong and simple, and compactly arranged, occupying about 3 feet by 2 on the floor, and containing a convenient meal box directly below the grinders. It can be driven by any horse power suited for thrashing wheat—price \$40 including an extra set of grinders, which can be put in by any intelligent farmer.

Orders may be directed to me in Baltimore by those who wish to procure the above machines.

Those who design getting Reaping Machines for the harvest of 1842, will please give me early notice, designating the kind they choose, whether the cog wheel and crank, or the cam wheel and lever. To those who do not make the selection themselves I shall invariably send those which I have the most confidence in myself, without regard to any difference in first cost.

In expressing my thanks to farmers and others for their very liberal patronage thus far bestowed upon me, I can assure them that no effort shall be wanting on my part to render the machines now offered to them as perfect as possible, and well suited to the purposes for which they are designed, for which the experience I have had may perhaps be some guarantee.

Baltimore, Oct. 25, 1841.

OBED HUSSEY.

PLOWHS! PLOWHS!! PLOWHS!!!

A. G. & N. U. MOFF.

Corner of Euseb and Forrest-streets, O. T., near the Belle-Air Market.

Being the only Agents for this State, are now manufacturing the celebrated WILEY'S PATENT DOUBLE POINTED CAP PLOUGH, of the New York Composition Castings, which is pronounced by some of the most eminent and experienced farmers in the country, to be the best which they have ever used, not only as regards the ease and facility with which it turns the soil, it being nearly one draught lighter than ploughs of the ordinary kind, but also for its economical qualities; for with this plough the Farmer is his own blacksmith. Every farmer who has an eye to his own interest, would find that interest promoted by calling and examining for himself. We also make to order, other ploughs of various kinds, CULTIVATORS, CORN SHELLERS, GRAIN CRADLES, STRAW CUTTERS, RICE'S IMPROVED WHEAT FAN, &c., &c. Thankful for past favors, we shall endeavor to merit a continuance of the same. ma 3 13t

JOHN T. DURDING, Agricultural Implement Manufacturer, Grant and Ellicott street, near Pratt st. in the rear of Messrs. Dinwiddie & Kyle's, Baltimore.

Auxiliary to render satisfaction to his friends and the public, has prepared a stock of implements in his line, manufactured by experienced workmen, with materials selected with care; among them, Rice's Improved Wheat Fan, said to be the best in use, and highly approved of at the recent Fair at Ellicott's Mills.

Straw Cutters, from \$25 to \$30
Corn Shellers, hand or horse power, 13 to 25
Thrashing Machines with horse powers, warranted, and well attended in putting up, \$150
Corn and Cob Mills, new pattern.

The Wiley Plough, Beach's do. Chenoweth's do. New York do, self sharpening do, hill-side do of 2 sizes, left hand Ploughs of various sizes, Harrows, hinged or plain; Cultivators, expanding or plain, 4 sizes; Wheat Cradles, Grass Scythes hung, &c.

Castings for machinery or ploughs, wholesale or retail; James' Singletrees, and a general assortment of Tools for farm or garden purposes, all of which will be sold on the most pleasing terms to suit purchasers. cc 14

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

The subscriber, referring to former advertisements for particulars, offers the following valuable implements to the farmers and planters of the United States:

A MACHINE for boring holes in the ground for posts, price \$5
A MACHINE for morticing posts, sharpening rails for fence, for sawing wood in the forests, and planing boards, &c. 150

A HORSE POWER on the plan of the original stationary power; the castings of this machine weigh 850 lbs. 130

The above is of sufficient strength for 6 or 8 horses; one for 2 or 4 horses will cost about 75 to 100

The DITCHING MACHINE, which has cut more than 20 miles of ditch in one season.

A MACHINE for HUSKING, SHELLING, SEPARATING, WINNOWING, and putting in the bag, corn or any kind of grain, at the rate of 600 bushels of corn, per day, or 2000 bushels after the husk is taken off. 200

A MACHINE for PLANTING COTTON, CORN, BEETS, RUTA BAGA, CARROTS, TURNIPS, onions, and all kinds of garden seeds—a most valuable machine. 25

Also, CORN & COB CRUSHERS, Morticing & Planing machines, Tensdine do.; Gear Drill Stocks, Ratchet Drills, Screw Setters, Turning Lathes and Circular Saw Arbors, and benches for the same, &c.; and Cutting and cleaning Chisels for morticing machines. GEO. PAGE,

HARVEST TOOLS.

J. S. EASTMAN, in Pratt near Hanover street, has on hand the real Waldron Grain and Grass Scythes; also American Grass Scythes that are warranted, and returnable if not good; superior Pennsylvania made Grain Cradles; a prime lot of Grass Swards at wholesale or retail; 400 Connecticut made Hay Rakes, equal to any ever offered in this market, at wholesale or retail; a prime article of cast-steel Hay and Manure Forks, also Hoes for garden use, and Elwell's best English made Field Hoes, together with a general assortment of Agricultural Implements, such as Ploughs of all kinds, Harrows, Cultivators for Corn and Tobacco, Wheat Fans, at various prices, a superior article; Horse-power Thrashing Machines—Farm Carts, with lime spreading machinery attached—a large quantity of Plough Castings constantly on hand, for sale at retail or by the ton—Machine Castings and machinery, made in the best manner and at short notice—likewise repairs, &c. &c. On hand several different Corn Planters, that have a good reputation.

N. B. Always on hand, Landreth's superior Garden Seeds, at retail. au 11 J. S. EASTMAN.

DURHAM BULL CALF.

For sale, a beautiful red and white DURHAM BULL CALF, wanting 1-16th of being full bred. This calf is out of my seven-eighths heifer DAISY, by Mr. Mankin's imported bull LLEWELYN. (He has been fed from the pail since being 4 days old)—Daisy is out of my 3-4 Cow DUTCHESS, sired by Mr. Beltzhoover's imported bull "Decton." is but 2 years and 4 months old, and giving at this time three gallons of milk per day.

DUTCHESS is 6 years old, and gave 6 1-2 gallons of milk daily, and 11 lbs. of butter each week during the first two months after last calving. A gentleman has bought this cow, but not having taken her away agreeably to stipulation, I am constrained to dispose of her to another, not having room in my stables for her and the other stock.

I will take \$50 for the bull calf when 2 months old, or less if taken sooner, and 106 dollars for Dutchess, who is in calf by Beltzhoover's imported bull "JOHN BULL." A. B. KYLE, No. 3 Pratt st. wharf. cc 13 3t

BERKSHIRES & IRISH GRAZIER PIGS.

The subscriber will receive orders for his fall litters of pure Berkshire Pigs bred from stock selected of C. N. Bement & John Lansing, Esq. of Albany, N.Y. and importations from England; also for the improved Ulster breed of Irish Graziers, bred by Wm. Murdoch, Esq. of Annaroe, co'y Monaghan, Ireland. Price, same as at Albany for pure Berkshire \$20 per pair; for Irish Graziers \$20 per pair, with the addition of \$1 for Cages, deliverable in or shipped at the port of Baltimore.

Address, post paid. JOHN F. E. STANLEY, June 17 Or apply at No. 50 S. Calvert street, Baltimore.

FOR SALE—AN IRISH GRAZIER BOAR,

Bred by that distinguished breeder, Wm. Murdoch, Esq. of Annaroe, county Monaghan, Ireland, and imported by J. S. Skinner, Esq. in the ship Pocahontas, in the spring of 1840—he is about 2 years old, large and well formed—price \$60. Apply to S. SANDS.

A GARDENER WISHES A SITUATION.

He has produced to the publisher of the A. Farmer testimonial for character and capacity. Apply at this office. cc 20 3t

SHERIFFALTY.

JOHN COULSON, of Baltimore county, is a candidate for the office of Sheriff at the ensuing election. cc 27 1E

MARTINEAU'S IRON HORSE-POWER.

The above cut represents this horse-power, for which the subscriber is proprietor of the patent-right for Maryland, Delaware, and the Eastern Shore of Virginia; and he would most respectfully urge upon those wishing to obtain a horse power, to examine this before purchasing elsewhere; for beauty, compactness and durability it has never been surpassed.

Thrashing Machines, Wheat Fans, Cultivators, Harrows and the common hand Corn Sheller constantly on hand, and for sale at the lowest prices.

Agricultural Implements of any peculiar model made to order at the shortest notice.

Castings for all kinds of ploughs, constantly on hand by the pound or ton. A liberal discount will be made to country merchants who purchase to sell again.

Mr. Hussey manufactures his reaping machines at this establishment. R. B. CHENOWETH, corner of Front & Ploughman sts. near Baltimore st. Bridge, or No. 20, Pratt street. Baltimore, mar 31, 1841

LIME—LIME.

The subscribers are prepared to furnish any quantity of Oyster Shell or Stone Lime of a very superior quality at short notice at their Kilns at Spring Garden, near the foot of Eutaw street, Baltimore, and upon as good terms as can be had at any other establishment in the State.

They invite the attention of farmers and those interested in the use of the article, and would be pleased to communicate any information either verbally or by letter. The Kilns being situated immediately upon the water, vessels can be loaded very expeditiously. N. B. Wood received in payment at market price. ap. 22 3m

E. J. COOPER & Co.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

For sale by ROBERT SINCLAIR Jr. & Co.

No. 60 Light Street.

Goldsborough's Cornsheller & Husking Machine—warranted to husk & shell 900 bus. of corn per day, or shell in strip'd state 1200 bushels \$35 00

Do. for manual power which performs at about half the rate as above 35,00

Do. for Husking & Shelling Corn and Thrashing Grain, all of which is done perfectly and with astonishing despatch, 60 00

Horse Powers adapted to the draft of 2 or more horses, made very simple and strong, 100a125

Spike Thrashing Machines; warranted to be equal to any in this country, 50 to 75

Straw Carriers for separating straw from the grain when thrashing, 20 to 25

Patent Hay and Tobacco Presses, very simply constructed and great power, 125

Knowles' patent Grain and Grass Cutting machines, 150

Vegetable Cutters, warranted to cut 100 bushels turnips, beets, &c. per day, 30

Grindstones, hung on friction rollers, 15

Centrifugal Disintegrators for spreading lime, ashes, &c. 30

Baldwin's patent Corn and Cob Crusher, 65

Cylindrical Straw Cutters for manual or horse power, a first rate article, 30a45a75

Fanning Mills, 25a30

25 sorts Ploughs, embracing the sub-soil, hill side, paring and every other useful variety, 3a15

Cultivators for Tobacco and Corn, made to expand and stationary, 5a6.50

Harrows, hinge, V shape, common drag and improved Eag. 7a25

Drill and sowing Machines, 12a25

Ox Yokes, Swingle Trees, Hoes, and every other variety of Agricultural Tool

GARDEN & FIELD SEEDS, embracing a very large and genuine assortment

Books on cultivation, and management of Stock

TREES and PLANTS supplied at the shortest notice.

* Catalogues of the above supplied gratis, giving prices and description of each article for sale. cc 29

DURHAM & DEVON STOCK, HOGS, SHEEP, &c.

A gentleman retiring from his farm for the present, authorizes me to dispose of the greater part of his farm stock, consisting of Durham and Devon Bulls, Cows and Calves, and crosses of these breeds, also crosses on good country stock—Berkshire, China, Wexburn, Chester, (as also crosses of these,) Sows, Boars, Sheeps and Pigs—and some fine half Leicester Ewes. For further information apply to S. SANDS.